

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 AUGUST 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

LATE NOTE

Our latest information suggests that the Soviet Venus shot has only been postponed, and that it may be on for tonight.

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For The President Only—Top Secret

1. USSR-Space

[redacted] 50X1
another Soviet attempt to launch a Venus probe went awry last night. We are not yet sure whether the shot was called off at the last moment, or whether it failed early in its flight. [redacted] 50X1

2. Laos

a. There has been no let-up in the systematic Pathet Lao - Viet Cong campaign to suppress Meo resistance.

b. The Meos are pressuring our people in Vientiane for permission to launch retaliatory attacks. They are being told to resist the temptation, but we cannot be sure that the order will be obeyed by all hands.

3. Cuba

a. A study of Cuban naval communications shows the navy reacted quickly enough to last Friday night's raid on Havana, but that subsequent search operations were badly handled, permitting the raiders to slip away. We have no further word about Wednesday night's affair off Cuba's north central coast, but it seems to have followed much the same pattern.

[redacted] 50X1

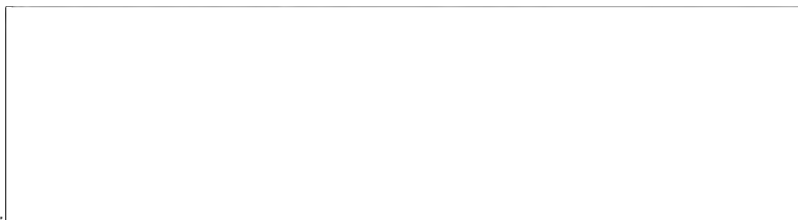
b. These incidents have given Havana the jitters. The army, as well as the navy, has been alerted.

c. One of our naval aircraft, on a routine mission, was fired on yesterday afternoon by Cuban patrol vessels at a point twelve miles off Cuba's northern coast.

4. Nationalist China

a. Chiang Ching-kuo has told us that Nationalist agents were responsible for the recent bombing incidents on the Macao and Hong Kong borders with Communist China. He indicated that five more are planned, beginning next week.

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5. Congo

a. In Katanga, supplies shipped via Rhodesia for the use of United Nation's forces are being turned back or confiscated by the Katangan authorities, presumably in retaliation for the closing of the Elisabethville airport.

b. There are reports of further fighting around Albertville.

NOTES

A.

[Redacted]

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- B. Portugal Foreign Minister Nogueira was furious over Congolese assistance to Angolan nationalists when he saw Ambassador Elbrick on Wednesday and threatened to throw the book at Leopoldville. He backed off somewhat when Elbrick pointed out the repercussions such action would touch off.
- C. Syria The political pot is heating up again, and we may soon see a changing of the guard. In the competition, it looks as though former Prime Minister Khalid Al-Azm has a good chance to get the job back, but only if he can figure out a way to maneuver around army opposition.
- D. East Germany Ulbricht left Moscow for home this morning after more than a month in the USSR.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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